



Patent Application No. 10/650,504  
Attorney Docket No. 81872.0052

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Yosuke INOMATA, et al.

Serial No: 10/650,504

Confirmation No.: 6973

Filed: August 27, 2003

For: DRY ETCHING APPARATUS, DRY  
ETCHING METHOD, AND PLATE  
AND TRAY USED THEREIN

Art Unit: 1765

Examiner: A.K. Alanko

I hereby certify that this correspondence  
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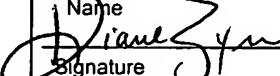
Commissioner for Patents  
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TRANSMITTAL OF  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Dear Sirs:

1.  The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).
2.  The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(b), but *before* the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs first. A statement specified in §1.97(e) or a fee set forth in §1.17(p) is included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

**§1.97(e) STATEMENT**

I, the person signing below, state:

that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification

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(202) 293-2100

after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

**OR FEE**

Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c) (\$180.00) to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.

3.  The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(c), but before, or simultaneously with the payment of the issue fee. A statement specified in §1.97(e) and a fee set forth in §1.17(p) are included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).

**§1.97(e) STATEMENT**

I, the person signing below, state:

that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

**OR**

that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

**AND FEE**

Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(d). (\$180.00).

4.  If it should be determined that for any reason either an insufficient fee or an excessive has been paid, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment necessary to ensure consideration of the information disclosure statement for the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.

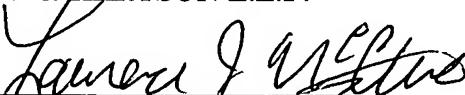
5.  A list of 24 reference(s) is in the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

**NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE REFERENCES**

- Enclosed is a search report for a counterpart application. The search report Examiner has provided comments on the relevancy of any non-English language references cited in the search report.
- The specification incorporates comments on the relevancy of Non-English language references.
- Set forth below are comments provided by the applicant's home country counsel on the relevancy of non-English language references:

Respectfully submitted,  
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

By:

  
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FORM PTO-1449 JAN 23 2006 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number (Optional) 81872.0052	Application Number 10/650,504
		Applicant Inomata et al.	
		Filing Date 08/27/03	Group Art Unit 1765

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,243,506	01-1981	Ikeda et al.	204	298.31	
	4,523,971	06-1985	Cuomo et al.	156	345.39	
	4,661,203	04-1987	Smith et al.	438	725	
	4,681,780	07-1987	Kamman	427	282	
	4,771,213	09-1998	Higashinakagawa et al.	313	402	
	4,842,679	06-1989	Kudo et al.	438	707	
	5,015,331	05-1991	Powell	438	723	
	5,171,732	12-1992	Hed	505	190	
	5,223,108	06-1993	Hurwitt	204	192.12	
	5,254,215	10-1993	Terakado et al.	216	63	
	5,304,250	04-1994	Sameshima et al.	118	723ER	
	5,332,464	07-1994	Namrose	438	9	
	5,753,014	05-1998	Van Rijn	96	12	
	5,764,842	06-1998	Aoki et al.	385	131	
	5,770,123	06-1998	Hatakeyama et al.	264	1.21	
	5,868,952	02-1999	Hatakeyama et al.	216	66	
	6,087,274	07-2000	Tonucci et al.	438	758	
	6,132,805	10-2000	Moslehi	427	248.1	
	6,171,351	01-2001	Schroder et al.	51	295	
	6,176,967	01-2001	Obszarny	156	345.3	
	6,316,289	11-2001	Chung	438	118	
	6,413,880	07-2002	Baski et al.	438	759	
	6,418,941	07-2002	Arita et al.	134	1.2	
	US-2002/0168166 A1	11-2002	Itoh et al.	385	129	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	